Issue of Identity Cards to People Living in Borders of Punjab and Rajasthan

1608. SHRI THANGABAALU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have advised the Governments of Punjab and Rajasthan to prepare schemes for issuing of identity cards to people in towns bordering Pakistan; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) what is the response of the State Governments thereto;

(c) whether Government propose to include border States of Bihar, West Bengal and Gujarat also in this scheme; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (d) A pilot scheme for issue of identity cards in four selected tehsils in four border districts of Rajasthan has been approved and is in the process of implementation by the State Government. The State Governments of Punjab and Gujarat have also been advised to consider preparation of similar pilot schemes. For the present, such schemes are being drawn for the States on the western borders.

News-item captioned 'Fradulent Import of Raw Silk'

1609. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Fradulent Import of Raw Silk" which appeared in the Impex Times of the 25th January, 1987;

(b) if so, what are the details of such licences issued and whether such licences will be cancelled; and

(c) what action Government have taken for penalising the concerned exporters and manufacturers for fradulent imports of silk?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The matter is being investigated and if need be appropriate action would be taken as under the provisions of Imports & Exports (Control) Act, 1947 and the orders issued thereunder.

Indian members of a Multinational Youth Delegation not allowed to Disembark at Karachi

1610. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pakistani authorities did not allow the Indian contingent of a multinational Asian Youth delegation, now on a goodwill mission to various countries, to disembark at Karachi and visit that country; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALIERO): (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

Settlement of border disputes between Assam, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh

1611. SHRI NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken by Government to settle the border disputes between Assam and Nagaland and between Assam and Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) whether Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya are maintaining the demarcation of the borders as fixed at the time when these States were districts of Assam; and

(c) if not, what steps Government propose to take to keep the States within their own borders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (c) The Governments of Assam and Nagaland have been requested to suggest and agreed person to be appointed to go into all aspects of the border dispute between the two States, together with agreed terms of reference.

A Tripartite Committee consisting of representatives of Survey of India, Government of Assam and Government of Arunachal Pradesh was set up by the Government of India to consider the question of demarcation of boundary between Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. The Survey of India are undertaking the task of erecting pillars in certain areas. The two State Governments are in touch with each other regarding the boundary problem.

The Governments of Assam and Meghalaya have constituted a Committee of Experts headed by Shri Y.V. Chandrachud, formerly the Chief Justice of India by mutual agreement, to consider the question of interpretation of the constitutional boundary between the two States.

Environment protection councils

1612. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Governments have been advised to set up Environment Protection Councils with the task of promoting general awareness on the protection of environment;

(b) if so, how many State Governments have complied with the advice so far; and

(c) what are the other functions of the said Councils?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two States have constituted the Councils. Five States have informed of their willingness to constitute the Councils.

(c) (i) Review work relating to environment undertaken in State by Government and Non-Governmental Organisation.

(ii) Advise the State Government on environmental issues of the State.

(iii) Identify areas requiring investigation, research and restoration in the field of environment.

Delhi as Air Pollution Control Area

1613. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to declare the Union Territory of Delhi as "Air Pollution Control Area";

(b) if so, whether Government have identified major air pollutants in Delhi and if so, the measures taken to check them effectively;

(c) whether Government are aware of the perfectly feasible technical methods of controlling pollution from thermal power plants and if so, what steps have been taken against Indraprastha power station for causing high level of pollution; and

(d) whether Government are considering to amend the Motor Vehicles Act to enforce automobile emission standards and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The measures taken include the following:

(i) Ambient air quality standards have been laid down;

(ii) Emission limits for major air polluting industries have been prescribed;